

**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR  
PREHISTORIC AND  
PROTOHISTORIC SCIENCES  
(UISPP) –  
30<sup>th</sup> COMMISSION**

**GORJ COUNTY COUNCIL**

**ROMANIAN ACADEMY  
INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
"VASILE PÂRVAN" BUCHAREST -  
CENTRE OF THRACOLOGY**

**GORJ COUNTY MUSEUM  
"ALEXANDRU ȘTEFULESCU"  
TÂRGU JIU**

# **PROGRAMME**

**17<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM  
OF FUNERARY ARCHAEOLOGY**

**BORDER GUARDS OF THE PASSES,  
FROM THE FORTRESSES AND THE GRAVES.  
THE BRONZE AND IRON AGES**

**Târgu Jiu, Gorj County (Romania)  
4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

## **Organizing Committee:**

<b>Prof. dr. Valeriu Sîrbu</b>	<b>Dr. Dumitru Hortopan</b>	<b>Prof. dr. Cristian Schuster</b>
<b>President</b>	<b>Vicepresident</b>	<b>General Secretary</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Commission UISPP</b>	<b>Manager GCM</b>	<b>Centre of Thracology</b>

## **THURSDAY, 4 October 2018**

- 10.00-16.00 – Welcome and Registration of the participants
- 13.00-14.30 – Lunch
- 16.00 – Official Opening Ceremony of the 17<sup>th</sup> *International Colloquium*  
Speakers: officials, organizers and participants
- 16.45 – Visiting the Archaeological Exhibition

### **SESSION: 17.30-19.30**

**CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Marija LJUŠTINA**

- Dr. Stefan ALEXANDROV (Bulgaria), *Bronze Age Barrow Graves in Upper Thrace*
- Dr. Adina BORONEANȚ (Romania), *Death on the Danube. A survey of Bronze Age funerary practices in the Iron Gates of the Danube*
- Dr. Gabriel CRĂCIUNESCU (Roumanie), *Le rôle des communautés Žuto Brdo - Gârla Mare à l'Est des Portes de Fer*
- Dr. Katarina DMITROVIĆ (Serbia), *An Archaeological Insight into the Early and Middle Bronze Age Cultural Pattern in western Serbia*

### **Discussions**

- 20.00 – Dinner

## **FRIDAY, 5 October 2018**

### **SESSION: 9.00-12.30**

**CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Stefan ALEXANDROV**

- Dr. Anca-Diana POPESCU (Romania), *Back and forth: travelling across the Eastern Carpathians during the Bronze Age*

- Dr. Valerii KAVRUK (Romania), *Salt and Power in the Carpathian Basin between 1630 and 800 BC*

- Dr. Marija LJUŠTINA, Dr. Ivan NINČIĆ and Dr. Teodora RADIŠIĆ (Serbia), *A close watch on the Tisza: the Early Iron Age necropolis Stubarlija, Serbia*

- 10.30-10.45 – Coffee break

- Dr. Marija LJUŠTINA, Dr. Teodora RADIŠIĆ and Dr. Ivan NINČIĆ (Serbia), *Exotic goods from the Early Iron Age necropolis Stubarlija, Serbia, as indicators of cultural contacts*

- Dr. Aurel ZANOCI, Prof. dr. Ion NICULIȚĂ, Dr. Mihail BĂȚ (Rep. Moldova), *Early Iron Age fortifications and necropolises in the Middle Dniester Region*

- Dr. Corina BORȘ (Romania), *New considerations on the middle period of the First Iron Age based on recent discoveries from Tărtăria – Podu Tărtăriei vest (Alba County)*

- Discussions

- 13.00-14.30 – Lunch

### **SESSION: 15.30-18.00**

**CHAIRPERSON: Prof. dr. Ion NICULIȚĂ**

- Prof. dr. Cristian SCHUSTER, Dr. Gheorghe CALOTOIU and Dr. Dumitru HORTOPAN (Romania), *Mountain guardians. Prehistoric and Getic communities and fortresses controlling the Meridional Carpathians in Northern Oltenia.*

- Prof. dr. Cristian SCHUSTER (Romania), *The Water Guardians on the Lower Argeş River. About the Prehistoric and Getic Fortifications*

- Dr. Valeria ACCONCIA, Dr. Diletta COLOMBO, Dr. Davide DELFINO, Dr. Annalisa FALCONE (Italy), *The area of Venafro in the context of the archaic age of high Volturno valley (Isernia- Italy). Archaeological data and their dissemination in the Archaeological Museum of Venafro*

- Aris TSARAVOPOULOS, Gely FRAGKOU (Greece), *Archaic burials. Historical conclusions from Corinth, 6<sup>th</sup> c. BC*

- Discussions

- 19.30 – Dinner

## **SATURDAY, 6 October 2018**

### **SESSION: 9.00-12.30**

**CHAIRPERSON:** Prof. dr. Cristian SCHUSTER

- Dr. Alexandru BERZOVAN (Romania), *Considerations Regarding the Getae Fortresses from the Northern Area of the Central Moldavian Plateau (5th –3rd centuries BC)*

- Prof. dr. Ion NICULIȚĂ, Dr. Aurel ZANOCI and Dr. Mihail BĂȚ (Rep. Moldova), *On the guard of the eastern border of the Getic world: Fortified sites in the Dniester Basin*

- Dr. Livia BUZOIANU, Dr. Nicolaie ALEXANDRU (Romania), *Economic relations between Polis and Chora. Albești Case Study*

10.30-10.45. Coffee break

- Dr. Vlad V. ZIRRA (Romania), *The funeral chariot from Pişcolt cemetery and its story*

- Dr. Horea POP, Dr. Cătălin BORANGIC (Romania), *The Dacian Fortification and graves from Meseşenii de Sus*

- Prof. dr. Valeriu SÎRBU, Dr. Diana DĂVÎNCĂ (Romania), *The Guardians between Iron Gate and the South-western Transylvania. Case studies: The Necropolises from Bălăneşti (Gorj County) and Hunedoara (Hunedoara County)*

- Discussions

- 13.00-14.30 – Lunch

**SESSION:15.00-17.00**

**CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Davide DELFINO**

- Dr. Aurel RUSTOIU, Dr. Iosif Vasile FERENCZ (Romania), *Dacian fortified settlements in the Iron Gates region during the 1st c. BC and their warrior elites*

- Prof. dr. Valeriu SÎRBU, Dr. Sebastian MATEI (Romania), *Geto-Dacian Fortresses at the Curvature of Carpathians*

- Dr. Daniel SPÂNU (Romania), *First Century AD Tumulus „Movila Hârtop” at Poiana. Retrieving information*

- Dr. Liana OȚA, Prof. dr. Valeriu SÎRBU (Romania), *Only by chance? Sarmatians, Romans, Dacians in Wallachia and Moldavia*

**Discussions**

17.00 - 17.30 – Coffee break

**ROUND TABLE: 17.30 - 18.30**

**CHAIRPERSON: Prof. dr. Valeriu SÎRBU**

- International Union for Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences (UISPP) -  
*Prehistoric and Protohistoric Mortuary Practices*

- Past, Present and Future -

-19.00 – Official closing ceremony of the 17<sup>th</sup> International Colloquium

**SUNDAY, 7 October 2018**

- 8.30 - 12.30 – Documentary trip in the Gorj County

- 13.00 - 14.30 – Lunch

- Departure of the participants

# **ABSTRACTS**

## **The area of Venafro in the context of the archaic age of high Volturno valley (Isernia - Italy). Archaeological data and their dissemination in the Archaeological Museum of Venafro**

**Valeria Acconcia, Diletta Colombo, Davide Delfino, Annalisa Falcone (Italy)**

From the beginning of 2018, at Venafro archaeological Museum (Isernia), the Istituto Centrale per l'archeologia and the Polo Museale del Molise (both for the Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage) are carrying out a joined project aimed to realize a new permanent exhibition of the pre-roman section, according to the latest ministerial and ICOM standards.

This work gave the opportunity to review the context of the Pozzilli-Camerelle necropolis, located in the nearby territory and investigated at the end of 1970s and the beginning of 1990s. The grave goods reveal the social organization and the territorial impact of local communities during the 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries BC, and late 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries, along the Volturno River, which connected Campania, Latium and the internal Samnium. The population framework of the archaic period is integrated by other similar sites located along the ancient routes connecting the internal Apennine region: it is precisely across this mountainous region that, at the end of the fifth century B.C., Oscan populations descended through the upper valley of the Volturno until the Etruscan Capua occupying it.

## **Bronze Age Barrow Graves in Upper Thrace**

**Stefan Alexandrov (Bulgaria)**

Sixty years after the first archaeological excavations of a Bronze Age barrow in Southeast Bulgaria, the number of the grave complexes excavated in Thrace has increased significantly. At present, 53 Bronze Age barrows with a total number of 325 mortuary complexes have been investigated in Upper Thrace. Based on mortuary practices, stratigraphic data, grave inventory and <sup>14</sup>C dates, 1 grave could be dated to the “transitional period” to the Bronze Age; 236 graves - to the EBA and 88 - to MBA/LBA periods. That lot provides a good chance to answer some of the old questions asked in 20<sup>th</sup> century as well as to discuss some new problems connected to the history of the northern Balkans in the fourth - second millennia BC. Some of these questions are discussed in the present communication.

## **The funeral chariot from Pișcolt cemetery and its story**

**Vlad V. Zirra (Romania)**

At the Pișcolt necropolis, Tomb no. 108 has a special and intriguing place and story. It is an inhumation burial with a minimum of skeleton remains and at the same time one of the most riches funeral inventory. On the other hand, it presents a ritual particularity highlighted by the author of the excavations (dr. Némethi János).

This is related to the deposition above the inhumation level of the defunct (some 40 cm higher) of "*three piles of iron pieces, corroded, bearing the imprint of a wooden object to which they were mounted*" (description belongs to the author of the excavations).

Following the various categories of pieces that are referred to leads to the clear conclusion that these are the remains of a funeral chariot, the only one present in the above-mentioned necropolis.

## **Considerations Regarding the Getae Fortresses from the Northern Area of the Central Moldavian Plateau (5<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC)**

**Alexandru Berzovan (Romania)**

During the 5<sup>th</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC, the culture of the Getae tribes (the northern branch of the Thracian people) flourished in the forest-steppes at the foothills of the Carpathians. The Getae built a significant number of hill forts, some of which covered large areas and were protected by complex defensive systems. These massive collective efforts were not only a simple answer to the danger represented by the seasonal raids of the steppe nomads or the endemic internal conflicts - but were also a consequence of economic, social and cultural accumulations that favored the emergence of vigorous elites with a strong identity.

Of special interest to us is the northern part of the Central Moldavian Plateau, a hilly region located in modern day Eastern Romania. Here, on a relatively small area, a larger number of forts are concentrated. While a part of them were already known in the archaeological literature, the usage of relatively recent LIDAR scans permits us to draw some interesting observations and hypothesis regarding their size and functionality.

Most of the forts were built on ridges, occupying points that offered a good viewshed. Some of them were rather modest in size (like the ones from Crivești ori Dobrovăț), others were more extensive (Poiana Mănăstirii, Arsura). Some likely represented residential centers of power (Bunești – Averești), with a long existence, while others were more likely used sporadically, during times of need. While further archaeological investigations are needed to obtain more precise answers, we believe it is possible that a part of these forts, beyond their obvious functionalities, were also used to protect a number of commercial railroads that came from the lower Danube across the Moldavian Plateau.

## **Death on the Danube. A survey of Bronze Age funerary practices in the Iron Gates of the Danube**

**Adina Boroneanț (Romania)**

Archaeological sites in the Iron Gates section of the Lower Danube Valley between Serbia and Romania contain some of the richest concentrations of early Prehistoric burials in Europe, dating to the period between 12,500 BC (Early Mesolithic) and the end of the beginning of the first millennium (Late Bronze Age).

The Bronze Age funerary record for the Iron Gates is compared against the regional paleoclimatic record. Lack of burials during certain time intervals during the Bronze Age in the Iron Gates area coincide with “rapid climate change events” (RCC) recorded in Greenland ice cores and paleoclimate archives from the Danube catchment. These cooling anomalies are well-dated, with Greenland ice-core resolution, due to synchronicity between warm/cold foraminifera ratios in Mediterranean core LC21 as a proxy for surface water temperature, and Greenland GISP2 non sea-salt (nss) [K+] ions as a proxy for the intensification of the Siberian High and for polar air outbreaks in the northeast Mediterranean.

Possible explanations of the observed discontinuities in the funerary record are considered: changes in the social environment linked to the mobility of the Bronze Age communities, flood-induced settlement/cemetery relocations, and taphonomic effects. Future planned research will demonstrate if RCC-related climatic deterioration is a major factor underlying social change, although always at work within a wide spectrum of social, cultural, economic and religious factors.

## **New considerations on the middle period of the First Iron Age based on recent discoveries from Tărtăria – *Podu Tărtăriei vest* (Alba County)**

**Corina BORȘ (Romania)**

The prehistoric site from Tărtăria – *Podu Tărtăriei vest* (Alba County) was discovered in 2012 by large-scale preventive archaeological field investigations occasioned by the construction of the A1 motorway along the Mureș River Valley. The site is located north to Tărtăria village (Sălișteea commune), on a plateau situated on the upper left terrace of the mentioned valley. In 2012, throughout an open area archaeological excavation was completely investigated an area of about 2 hectares (on the southern and eastern limits of the site), where significant archaeological features and vestiges were discovered, providing major new data and finds for Middle Hallstatt period – the Basarabi pottery style. The most important ones are two ditches marking the southern and eastern limits of the site, two hoards of bronze and iron age objects (comprising over 400 artefacts, dated to the middle period of the First Iron Age / the Middle Hallstatt period – the Bălvănești-Vinț series of bronze hoards, 9<sup>th</sup> c. – 8<sup>th</sup> c. BC) and a special feature with funerary characteristics. Since 2016 was initiated a scheduled archaeological project, aiming both field excavations and geophysics surveys. As a result, a large-scale magnetic survey and aerial photography were made for documenting the setting of the prehistoric site. Considering the evidence provided by the 2014 and the 2016 geophysics surveys was set an excavation perimeter in the northern part of the site; the first two campaigns made in here brought new interesting archaeological data. Based on the

preliminary results of the excavations (2014, 2016 and 2017), as well as on the primary outcomes of the complex post-excavation studies and analyses it is clear that the middle Hallstatt period site from Tărtăria – *Podu Tărtăriei vest* provides a new perspective upon the so-called Basarabi culture. The presentation will discuss a series of particular topics: the site's location in comparison with other ones of Basarabi period along the Middle Mureş Valley and the relations with the Danube Valley area, as well as the Banat and Oltenia regions through the western passes of the Southern Carpathians; the need to reconsider the chronology of this period, especially the beginning of the Basarabi culture based on new <sup>14</sup>C data; and the chronology of a series of representative artefacts part of the hoards Tărtăria I and II.

Considering all the data recorded up to now and the preliminary analysis of the very rich archaeological finds from Tărtăria – Podu Tărtăriei vest, one can consider this site as a very important one for the study of middle period of the First Iron Age in Transylvania and neighbouring areas. Although preliminary, the results of the field researches made in here up to now emphasize once again the site's particular features and its significance for the middle period of the First Iron Age on the middle Danube Valley.

## **Economic relations between Polis and Chora. Albești Case Study**

**Livia Buzoianu, Nicolaie Alexandru (Romania)**

This paper brings forth the latest literary, epigraphical and archaeological information regarding the rural territory of Callatis during the period of autonomy. We discuss ancient topographic nomenclature, archaeological sites of interest and the Greek character and function of the fortified site of Albesti. The economic relationships between the polis and the *chora* are analyzed from the point of view of amphorae imports from centers with relevant representations at Callatis such as: Heraklea Pontica, Thasos, Sinope and Rhodos. Pottery typology and onomastic help in establishing the involvement of the colony in the diffusion of products. Chronological disparities between Callatis and its territory could be an indication of the colony's political and economic situation at a specific date in time and could reflect the degree of interdependence between the city and its chora.

## **Le rôle des communautés Žuto Brdo - Gârla Mare à l'est des Portes de Fer**

**Gabriel Crăciunescu (Roumanie)**

Les porteurs de la culture Žuto Brdo - Gârla Mare présentent un trait particulièrement distinctif. Ils habitaient les rives du Danube, sans trop s'en éloigner, presque dans toute la zone des Portes de Fer, tout comme à l'est de celle-ci. Les recherches à l'est et à l'ouest des Portes de Fer prouvent l'existence de leurs sites riverains. Leurs habitations recherchées étaient de dimensions modestes, c'est le cas de Ostrovul Mare *Colonie*, ou bien assez spacieuses à Ghidici *Balta Țarova* ou Gârla Mare *Insula*.

Ils pratiquaient exclusivement le rite de l'incinération et leurs nécropoles sont situées d'habitude sur les dunes au bord du Danube. A l'est de la zone des Portes de Fer un grand nombre de ces nécropoles (à Crivina ou à Salcia) ont été détruites à cause du lac d'accumulation de l'hydrocentrale Portes de Fer II. Recherchées avant l'inondation, ces

petites nécropoles bénéficient d'observations concernant le rite et le rituel d'inhumation de la population de cette culture.

Bien qu'il s'agisse d'habitants au bord du fleuve, la découverte des os de poissons est assez rare. Chose curieuse, vue leur présence constante dans les sites néolithiques du bord du Danube.

Le Danube a constamment représenté une voie de communication assez sûre entre des zones situées à grande distance. Le problème se pose si, par hasard, cette population pratiquant sporadiquement l'agriculture, ne fût intéressée par le commerce se développant dans l'espace extérieur à la zone des Portes de Fer. Le territoire de l'Olténie était riche en dépôts salifères, la zone correspondante au sud du Danube, où se retrouve la même culture Žuto Brdo- Gârla Mare, est connue pour l'exploitation du cuivre depuis le Néolithique. Le commerce se faisait également avec d'autres produits : céramique, artefacts métalliques, métal brut, bois de charpente, pigments, etc. Il est possible que cette population exerçât le contrôle dans le secteur du Danube compris entre Beograd et les Portes de Fer. Nous considérons que c'était la raison pour laquelle elle occupait aussi la zone à l'est des Portes de Fer. On sait déjà que les cours d'eau constituaient à l'époque des voies de commerce; des barques miniatures travaillées en terre glaise ou esquissées sur un support argileux ont été découvertes à l'est des Portes de Fer.

La fonctionnalité de certaines pièces *Brotlaibidole*, découvertes dans des zones d'Europe Centrale et Orientale n'est pas encore complètement éclaircie. Récemment ces pièces ont été interprétées comme une sorte de lettres échangées entre les négociants de l'époque. Nous nous trouverions donc devant une preuve des pratiques utilisées par les porteurs de la culture Žuto Brdo- Gârla Mare visant l'échange à distance des produits les plus divers.

## **An Archaeological Insight into the Early and Middle Bronze Age Cultural Pattern in western Serbia**

**Katarina Dmitrović (Serbia)**

The cultural development in the western Serbia is possible to follow thanks to the numerous graves under the mounds. The cultures signed by barrows are present since the beginning of the Bronze Age, which is known under the name of Belotić – Bela Crkva. The next phase is marked as the West Serbian group of the Middle Bronze Age. On the contrary to the aforementioned stages, graves dated to the LBA are rather rare and their general characteristics are known just basically. Despite well explored sepulchral customs, the settlements are still unknown. A small group of settlements, disposed at the eastern border of the mound phenomenon, brings quite different material culture, especially noticeable in ceramics. It is assumed that the disposition of these settlements on the east could represent a kind of a defensive system between two completely different prehistoric cultures – ones typical for the mound erection in the west Serbia and the culture named after A. Bulatović as Bubanj Hum IV – Ljuljaci in the central Serbia, that developed in the first centuries of the II millennium BC.

On the basis on these two culturally and geographically different areas, divided by a fertile West Morava Valley, could be remarked that the basic geomorphology represent in general a very important component of human existence. The West Morava river course and its wide and fertile valley can be supposed as an important connection as the separation line between them, labeled with the settlements on the one side and the mounds on the other.

## **Salt and Power in the Carpathian Basin between 1630 and 800 BC**

**Valerii Kavruk (Romania)**

The research in the eastern part of the Carpathian Basin has revealed relevant evidence for so-called "trough type" salt production. It appears to have been highly technological, complex and large-scaled. The earliest evidence of this type of this technology dates to ca. 1630 cal BC, and comes from the Someşul Mare Valley in northeast Transylvania (Băile Figa and Săsarim). Around 1400 – 1200 BC BC it had spread to the upper Tisza Valley in Maramureş (Valea Regilor) and around 1350 – 1100 to the Arieş Valley in western Transylvania (Valea Florilor). Around 800 BC this type of salt production has suddenly ceased.

It seems reasonable to assume that the main aim of this production was salt supply of the salt-less territories in northwest Transylvania, Crişana, Banat, the Tisza – Danube Interfluve, and Balkan Peninsula. Both the production and long distance exchange of salt must have required a complex network of sites to enable necessary coordination, logistic and control. Some fortified and funeral sites located close to the salt production sites and/or positioned in the key points of the exchange routes seem to have been part of this network.

The fortified sites located close to rich salt deposits and salt production sites are as follows: Cetatea and Sighetul Marmaţiei in Maramureş; Coldău-Varba, Ciceu-Corabia, Sărăţel et al. in northeast Transylvania; Teleac in southwest Transylvania, et al. The fortified sites located in key points of major salt routes include: Şimleu Silvaniei in northwest Transylvania located in the valley of Crasna River, which links the area to Someş; Medieşul Aurit-„Ciuncaş” in Sătmar Plain, which is located in the valley of Someş in front of a narrow intermountain Ticău Pass that ensures the entrance from Transylvania; Pecica-Şanţul Mare, Corneşti-Iarcuri, Sântana-Cetatea Veche et al. in Banat in the Lower Mureş Valley, that was intensively used in salt traffic.

Some extraordinary cemeteries – Lăpuş cemetery et al. – as well as some isolated graves – the Medieşul Aurit "princely" grave et al. – located in key points of salt traffic routes, certainly reveal some regional or local power centres presumably involved in salt traffic control. Thus the Lăpuş cemetery, being the richest one in the whole of the basin, marks one of the most powerful political centres during the timespan between ca. 1400 and 800 BC. It is located in a highly strategic position: at halfway distance from salt production sites in Maramureş and in north-eastern Transylvania (ca. 30 km in both directions). At the same time, it is in the valley of the navigable Lăpuş River – one of the most important tributaries of Someş, the latter being well known as one of the most important salt routes to the Sătmar Plain, Crişana and the Great Hungarian Plain. The Medieşul Aurit "princely" grave was located close to the homonymous fortified site and the famous Apa hoard, altogether revealing a powerful political local centre able to control salt traffic by Someş through the Ticău Pass.

The case study "Geospatial study of the Someşul Mare Basin" pays special attention to integration of salt production sites in the area into environment and archaeological landscape. It reveals a complex local network of salt production, traffic and power, and highlights the possible role of some Bronze Age and Iron Age fortified sites in the regulation and control of salt production and exchange in the area.

## **A close watch on the Tisa: the Early Iron Age necropolis Stubarlija, Serbia**

**Marija Ljuština, Ivan Ninčić, Teodora Radišić (Serbia)**

Serbian part of the Danube Basin in the Late Hallstatt period does not reveal a picture of cultural unity. The communities from the 6<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries BC went through substantial changes during that period. Disintegration of the great Basarabi cultural complex at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC led to the formation of different cultures and cultural groups. One of those groups is the Srem/Syrmia group of the west Balkan complex as defined by M. Garašanin (1973). It was connected with a number of flat skeletal graves with rich inventory - Certosa fibulae, glass beads, segmented belts, long iron spearheads, from Syrmia and eastern Slavonia, dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC.

During the 1990s in south Bačka, near the village Mošorin, some 800m eastwards from the Feudvar settlement site, which is situated on the right bank of the Tisa River, the Stubarlija necropolis was excavated. This is the first necropolis of the Syrmia group that was defined as such with certainty. The Stubarlija necropolis moved northern boundaries of the Syrmia group. It contained five skeletal graves with inventory which included pottery finds with tradition of the Bosut group, and imported goods: Certosa fibulae, glass beads and cowry shells.

The imported material confirms strong relations with other regions, which is not surprising having in mind the position of site – directly on the lower Tisa. Tracing the origin of the Certosa fibulae from the territory of the Syrmia group, P. Medović, the explorer of the site, marked the region of nowadays Slovenia. The fibulae can be explained both as a direct import from the Eastern Alpine region and as a product of local workshops, under strong influence from the west, the Sava River being the main communication route. However, the importance of the Tisa as an important transversal northward should not be neglected.

There is only a limited possibility to establish a solid chronological frame for the skeletal graves at Stubarlija. According to P. Medović, the necropolis is dated at the 4<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC. But material confirmations for such chronological positioning are not as firm as they must be. Having this in mind, generally earlier dates should be taken into consideration.

## **Exotic goods from the Early Iron Age necropolis Stubarlija, Serbia, as indicators of cultural contacts**

**Marija Ljuština, Teodora Radišić, Ivan Ninčić (Serbia)**

The Early Iron Age necropolis Stubarlija is situated near the village of Mošorin in south Bačka. It contained five skeletal graves attributed to the Srem/Syrmia group. The grave inventory included pottery finds, Certosa fibulae, glass beads and cowry shells. Apart from the pottery finds with traditions of the local Bosut group, other finds are considered to be imported goods. In this paper we will focus on cowry shells, which are the unique finds which have not been recorded on other sites in the territory of the Syrmia group.

Cowry shells were found only in one grave of this necropolis. It is grave 1 which contained skeleton of a female, lying in supine position, with arms on the upper part of the

stomach. The grave goods included: three strings of glass beads round the neck, a clay spindle-whorl, three bronze fibulae and fourteen cowry shells.

Bearing in mind that natural area of distribution for these molluscs are the tropical and sub-tropical waters of South and South-East Asia, the question arises as to the possible routes they passed to reach the mid-Danube region. According to P. Medović, the cowry shells were imported on the territory of present day Slovenia via the northern Adriatic, and as re-imported goods they could have been brought from Slovenia, along with the Certosa fibulae and the multi-coloured glass beads on the territory of the Sarmia group.

The aim of this paper is to examine whether practice of placing cowry shells in graves suggests cultural contacts other than proposed. So far no attempt has been made to determine the species of cowry shells, interpret modifications on the shells or to interpret their position in the grave. We think that taking into account all these parameters is the first step towards understanding this exceptional phenomenon and getting an answer to the question about the origin of this practice.

## **On the guard of the eastern border of the Getic world: Fortified sites in the Dniester Basin**

**Ion Niculiță, Aurel Zanoci, Mihail Băț (Rep. Moldova)**

In the basin of the Middle and Lower Dniester, on both banks, on a width of about 5-10 km, there were identified about 129 archaeological sites of the 4<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC, attributed to Getic communities. Of these 107 (40 fortifications, 64 open settlements and 3 necropolises) are located on the right bank and 22 (5 fortifications, 13 open settlements and 4 necropolises) are on the left bank.

Most Getic sites (91) are concentrated in the middle reaches of the Dniester, which in terms of physical geography represents a plateau region. In this area there is an increased number of fortifications, of which the majority (36) were built on the right bank of the river and only five on the left bank.

As a rule, the fortifications in the basin of the Middle Dniester are not evenly distributed along the river, but they form some “agglomerations” along with the open settlements. For example, such an “agglomeration” was attested on the right bank of the Dniester River, near the villages of Rudi, Arionești, and Tătărauca Nouă; it consisted of 6 fortifications and 15 open settlements. Another “concentration” was at a distance of about 75 km south of the previous one, in the Rașcov-Socola-Curătura micro-zone, and was located on both banks of the river. On the left bank of the Dniester there were four fortifications and three open settlements, and on the right bank – one fortification and 11 open settlements. About 17 km south of it there is the “agglomeration” in the Saharna micro-zone, which consisted of 16 fortifications and 14 open settlements, all of them, except the fortress of Ofatinți, being located on the right bank of the Dniester. And at about 5 km south of the Saharna micro-zone, on the right bank of the river, near Horodiște and Țipova, there is another “agglomeration”, where seven fortifications and four open settlements were attested.

Further on, downstream of the Dniester, up to the environs of the estuary, for the time being no fortification is known. But archaeological investigations carried out on both banks of the river revealed both open settlements and necropolises attributed to Getic communities. Only in the zone of the Dniester estuary, at Tudora, Udobnoe and Pivdennoe, there can be

assumed the existence of fortifications, which with some reservations can be attributed to the Getae.

Thus, based on the cataloguing and mapping of the Getic sites of the 4<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC, we observe a concentration of both fortifications and open settlements in the Middle Dniester Region, where they are predominantly located on the right bank of the river. At the same time there are also some left-bank enclaves, consisted especially of fortifications. And in the lower reaches, we are witnessing a number of the open settlements on both sides of the river and virtually the lack of fortifications.

## **Only by chance? Sarmatians, Romans, Dacians in Wallachia and Moldavia**

**Oța Liana, Valeriu Sîrbu (Romania)**

For anyone who takes a closer look on the map of territorial distribution of Sarmatian graves in Wallachia and Moldavia it is obvious that these discoveries are concentrated in certain areas.

For Wallachia, the observation published more than 50 years ago, regarding the control of the plains area by Sarmatians and of the western region by Dacians is still valid, but it is important to emphasize that discoveries are not evenly distributed not even in the area supposed to be controlled by the Sarmatian communities. A clue that might explain the territorial distribution of Sarmatian discoveries in Wallachia could be suggested by the location of Roman fortifications on the Danube. The comparison between the two types of discoveries clearly shows that the main concentrations of Sarmatian burials in Wallachia are situated in areas which could be easily controlled by the Roman army.

If the Sarmatian arrival in Wallachia can only be understood in connection with the Roman presence, the explanation of the distribution of Sarmatian discoveries in Moldavia seems to be a different one. At least in the current stage of research, the map shows two areas with significant Sarmatian presence in Moldavia: the north-eastern extremity and the southern region. Literary sources and especially archaeological discoveries suggest an explanation of the territorial distribution of Sarmatian graves in Moldavia, which have to be connected with Dacian control over certain areas of Moldavia: the lower Siret, central and Sub-Carpathian region.

## **The Dacian Fortification and graves from Meseșenii de Sus**

**Horea Pop, Cătălin Borangic (Romania)**

The pass through the Meseș Mountains, at Meseșenii de Sus, in the south-eastern sector of the Șimleului Depression, was blocked and surveyed in the Dacian period by a fortification built in the location *Osoiul Măcăului* (RAN Code 142113.01; LMI Code SJ-I-s-B-04918).

In 1957 a team coordinated by V. Lucăcel, the first director of the Museum of Zalău made a trench in the Prehistoric settlement just identified in Meseșenii de Sus-*Osoiul Măcăului*, discovering pottery dated in the Wietenberg culture, but no feature. From the above

mentioned trench some other artifacts, yet unpublished, were discovered dated into the Dacian period: hand-made and potter`s wheel made pottery dated in the 2nd-1st c. BC and a tip of a Celtic iron sword.

The acropolis, the highest part of the fortification, is in fact a Dacian feature, with a double enclosure. The highest plateau has the diameters of 40x20 m. Measured from the exterior of the enclosure it has the diameters of 80x40 m. Only the interior *vallum* is better preserved, as is the ditch which is still visible. The ditch is 5 m wide, 0.5 m deep. Behind the ditch, a *vallum* 1.5-2 m high was built with the earth extracted from the ditch and with stones. The width is cca. 7 m, while on the access way on the Meseş Mountains side, around 3-4 m. Behind this fortification was a protected plateau, oriented south-north, lower on the northern side.

Further in the northern end one can observe a semilunar terrace, with a length of 95 m and a width (on the direction of the axe of the fortification) of cca. 35 m, disposed at an inferior altitude as the superior plateau (30 m difference measured from the sea level).

On the field one can observe the traces of previous excavations, yet unpublished. The archaeological material existing in the collections of the Museum of Zalău are few and irrelevant. During the archaeological diagnosis performed with volunteers in the year 2016, two Dacian burials were researched, ravaged from Antiquity. These burials were disposed on the extra *vallum* terrace. The trench was positioned where clues existed on the existence of discoveries dated in the Dacian period having a funerary character. The archaeological strata are less than 0.4 m deep. Artifacts dated in the Dacian period include pieces of iron, bronze, silver, glass (burnt), without the possibility of contextualizing them properly, being scattered on the entire surface of the trench. The presence of incinerated bones (in low quantities however), and the secondary burning of the artifacts may constitute the argument of the funerary character of the discovery, bearing in mind the fact that they may have been destructed from the Antiquity. The discovery of two large buckles makes us believe that these were two funerary depositions dated in the 2nd-1st c. BC.

The research proposed for 2018 intends to give an answer on the chronology of the fortification, its components and the funerary deposition.

## **Back and forth: travelling across the Eastern Carpathians during the Bronze Age**

**Anca-Diana Popescu (Romania)**

The end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium BC is remarkable by the appearance of richly decorated pottery in the intra- and extra-Carpathian areas of present day Romania. This is in sharp contrast with the previous period (see for example the pottery from the settlements, and the flat and mound burials of the Early Bronze Age, no matter their cultural assignation: Foltești, Glina, Livezile etc.). This change in pottery extended over the Sub-Carpathian area in Moldova also, with ceramic styles characteristic mainly to the first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC, known in archaeological literature as the Monteoru, Costișa and Komarow. In south-east Transylvania, across the Eastern Carpathians, two styles were documented: the Costișa-Ciomortan and the Wietenberg, similarly dated.

The appearance of these different ceramic styles, with vessels from the category of the richly decorated fine ware, may be seen also as a consequence of the formation of well-structured human groups, probably with a hierarchical organization, whose identity and cohesion was signalled also by pottery design.

The author will present a comparative study of the material culture of the Middle Bronze Age communities on both side of the Eastern Carpathians, focusing especially on pottery design, funerary practices and metal hoarding (mainly the weapons). The presentation will examine the interactions among these communities based especially on the distribution of some types of artefacts, the similarities and differences observed in hoarding of metal items, the potential interest of some of these communities for a certain category of “foreign” goods, as well as whether and in what degree we can talk about a control of the accessible routes for crossing the Eastern Carpathians.

### **Dacian fortified settlements in the Iron Gates region during the 1<sup>st</sup> c. BC and their warrior elites**

**Aurel Rustoiu, Iosif Vasile Ferencz (Romania)**

During the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC fortified settlements were built on dominating heights. These were surrounded by inhabited terraces also bearing traces of manufacturing activities and an agricultural hinterland comprising the nearby valleys in which dependant rural settlements were located. In the Iron Gates region such fortified settlements and fortresses were discovered at Liubcova, Pescari, Divici and Socol. The settlement from Zidovar belongs to the same phenomenon.

The Dacian cultural and historical horizon was characterised by a “pyramidal” social organization in which social competition implied different means of expression. These differences had an impact also on the funerary practices.

During the Dacian horizon of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC – 1<sup>st</sup> century AD cemeteries are almost non-existent, and when some do appear, they seem to belong exclusively to certain social groups. From the funerary perspective, the corpses of most members of the community were treated in an archaeologically “invisible” manner. However, certain social categories belonging to these communities were treated differently upon death. For example, some members of the military elite were cremated and then laid together with their panoplies of arms in flat or tumulus graves, close to the settlement over which they once ruled.

This kind of burials is rarely encountered in the Iron Gates region so far (see for ex. a burial discovered at Dubova), but they could appear in the future, for example in the vicinity of the Dacian fortresses from southern Banat.

In conclusion, the identity of military elites was expressed through the construction of fortresses on dominating heights, which controlled visually the rural agricultural hinterland. Within the funerary domain, these elites expressed their dominant position through the restrictive use of particular rites and rituals, while other social categories were limited to a funerary treatment which is “invisible” archaeologically.

## **The Water Guardians on the Lower Argeş River. About the Prehistoric and Getic Fortifications**

**Cristian Schuster (Romania)**

When considering the hydrographic network of the central-western part of Muntenia, the Argeş River and his tributaries were the major aquatic arteries of the region. Given that the mentioned range was a forested one during the Prehistory and Getic time, it represented the main access route from the Danube towards the Meridional Carpathians. It led to some of the access passes towards Transylvania and towards the areas rich in salt. The one who had controlled the lower course of the river, had the access key to this important economical and strategic-military route.

The archaeological investigations had documented the existence for the Bronze Age and afterwards for the Iron Ages, of a chain of settlements situated on the banks of the Argeş River. They could be found especially on its right one, but also on the valley of its tributaries. Among these sites, some were fortified ones. For the Early Bronze Age, Glina Culture, some fortified settlements were unearthed on the Argeş, at Crivăţ, and on the Dâmboviţa River, a tributary of the Argeş, at Popeşti- *Cioarinu*, the place where the Călnău creek flows into the last mention river. Fortified settlements were also identified for the Late Bronze Age, at Radovanu-*Gorgana a Doua* and Popeşti-*Nucet*, while for the Early Iron Age they were discovered at Mironeşti-*Malul Roşu* and Popeşti-*Nucet*. We should say here that all the mentioned sites were defended by a ditch and wall on a single side. The other three sides were naturally protected, by valleys or ravines.

The Getae, by their *dava* from Popeşti-*Nucet*, by the *dava* system from Radovanu, comprising three fortifications (*Gorgana Intâi*, *Gorgana a Doua* and *Jidovescu*), and including also the *dava* from Crivăţ, all belonging to the 2<sup>nd</sup> c. BC - 1<sup>st</sup> c. AD, had raised to a higher level the managing of the territorial control from the Danube to the north. For the 4<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. BC, even if Getic traces existed on the Lower Argeş, no fortified settlements were discovered. Still, this doesn't mean that the respective area was not under control. On the bank of the Danubian lake from Căscioarele, a village connected with Radovanu, which is also on the Argeş River, an important *dava* had functioned by a valley which served as an access route, The *dava* system from Radovanu-Crivăţ and the one from Popeşti show us that they were the result of the activity of a form of Getic state which existed there until the Roman presence at the Danube, in the 1<sup>st</sup> c. BC - 1<sup>st</sup> c. AD.

## **Mountain guardians. Prehistoric and Getic communities and fortresses controlling the Meridional Carpathians in Northern Oltenia**

**Cristian Schuster, Gheorghe Calotoiu and Dumitru Hortopan (Romania)**

Meridional Carpathians are the natural border between Oltenia and Transylvania. Apparently, they obturate the access from one province to another. Still, the archaeological investigations had proved that this assumption is a false one, because a series of finds in the mountains proximity, on their passes, had documented an intense human activity in the region. This was generated by the control exerted upon the commercial routes, by their military value, but also by the underground richness, like salt and metal ores.

The identified Bronze Age sites, like those from the Gorj County - Aninoasa, Baia de Fier, Căpreni, Ciocardia, Tismana etc.- and the Vâlcea region - Arsanca, Bârsești, Blănoi, Bugiulești-Tetoiu, Brebeni, Ocele Mari, Ocnița etc. - are of unfortified type. Some exceptions could be the settlements from Polovragi and Ocnița-Cosota, but there, the Getic activity, who had resulted in the fortification of the respective ranges, had destroyed the possible defensive constructions of the Early and Middle/Late Bronze Age (Glina and Verbicioara Cultures).

The Early Iron Age is documented by discoveries at Bălcești, Bârsești, Brezoi, Călugăreni, Căzănești-Săveasca, Copăcelu, Cozia Veche, Ferigile, Govora, Ocele Mari, Râureni, Țeica etc. Some of them are necropoli. Until now, there is no fortified settlement documented for certain.

The Getae had established a series of unfortified settlements in the western part of Oltenia, in the mountainous and hilly regions, on the main terrestrian-aquatic routes, at Alimpești, Birnici, Broșteni, Bumbesti Jiu, Căpreni, Curțișoara, Fărcăsești, Lelești, Polovragi-*Mănăstire*, Socu, Șiacu, Vierșani - as well as in the Vâlcea range: Buleta, Căciulata, Copăcelu, Gătejești, Govora, Râmnicu Vâlcea, Stolniceni. Fortresses (*dava*) could be studied at Polovragi-*La Crucea lui Ursachi*, Stoina-Dealul Cetății, Țicleni, Vârț, Ocnița-Cosota. The possible fortified sites were pronounced, or are being considered with some reluctance those from Toiaga, Tetoiu, Roești-*La Cărămădărie*. Some of the sites had functioned until the 1<sup>st</sup> c. AD. It is interesting to note that, in this research stage, it seems that the interest of raising fortifications in the 4<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> c. BC was concentrated over the central part of Oltenia, mostly controlling the middle course of the Jiu River. It is possible that, in the mentioned region a power center might have crystallized. Later on, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> c. BC - 1<sup>st</sup> c. AD, this one had moved more to the north, where the rich sources of salt and ores were concentrated.

## **Archaic burials. Historical conclusions from Corinth, 6<sup>th</sup> c. BC**

**Aris Tsaravopoulos, Gely Fragkou (Greece)**

The city of Corinth has an important geographical position controlling the sea passage towards the Western Mediterranean. The city of Corinth through its narrow isthmus also dominates and controls the road access to the Peloponnese from central Greece. This important geographical position led to its economic and social development before the other cities of mainland Greece. By examining the conditions of finding and “burial” of the three burial statues found in the region of Tenea in Corinth and by comparing their “burial” with that of the archaic attic burial statues, we can link the fate of the statues with the historical events of archaic Corinth, during the second half of the 6th c. BC. These historical events took place due to the emergence of social events that preceded, due to its geographical position, the corresponding events in the rest of mainland Greece.

## **Geto-Dacian Fortresses at the Curvature of Carpathians**

**Valeriu Sîrbu, Sebastian Matei (Romania)**

The area around the curvature of the Carpathians held special significance throughout history, given that the passes and routes that cross it provided the connection of the inner Carpathian area to the Lower Danube Region and, via the Black Sea, to much farther lands.

The outside of the curvature of the Carpathians holds three fortresses from the Geto-Dacian period, which had various defence structures and, rather than shared features of the material culture aside, had their particular features and development tracks.

The defence structures of the fortresses are diverse, depending on the materials available in the area, on the resources at their disposal and on their purpose: a) in Cârломăneşti, sitting on a mesa in the Buzău valley, they dug ditches and erected walls with wooden palisades, b) in Târcov, on a mountain range, there were walls made from stone of various sizes or lightly shaped and c) in Pietroasa Mică, sitting on a limestone plateau, there are Hellenistic-inspired walls, with two limestone sides and a filling. The chronology of the fortresses is also diverse: Cârломăneşti (around 125 – 25 BC), Pietroasa Mică (around 80 BC – 10 AD) and Târcov (around 50/60 – 101/106 AD).

While Cârломăneşti was a residential centre, with major economic, political and religious aspects, in Târcov there was a military fortress and in Pietroasa Mică we have evidence of a single succession of types of Geto-Dacian sites, namely unfortified settlement, fortress and cult site.

## **The Guardians between Iron Gate and the South-western Transylvania. Case studies: The Necropolises from Bălăneşti (Gorj County) and Hunedoara (Hunedoara County)**

**Valeriu Sîrbu, Diana Dăvîncă (Romania)**

The archaeological finds known in the literature as Padea – Panaghiurski Kolonii are already about one century old, and their cultural-archaeological meaning and ethnic interpretation are still up for debate.

During the last decade, the number of finds of this type has gone up greatly, almost entirely due to the activity of owners of metal detectors („detectorists”), so a new approach to this phenomenon is in order. One of the areas with many such finds is the one between the Iron Gates on the Danube and the South-western Transylvania.

There are fortunate cases, where the “detectorists” handed the items over to museums immediately after finding them, and the archaeologists of that museum performed preventive/safeguarding excavations in the area in question.

In Bălăneşti, the metal-detector activities and the archaeological excavations revealed four complexes with inventories typical of the Padea – Panaghiurski Kolonii group. The inventory recovered this way includes offensive weapons (sica daggers, lance head) and what might be defensive gear (shield, chainmail shirt?), clothing accessories and adornments (fibulae, bracelet, buckle, chain links) and other types of items (thick nail, rod). It is interesting that there is no pottery.

The funerary finds can be dated to the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century – middle or second half of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC.

On the Hunedoara – *Grădina Castelului/Plateau* there were identified 34 deposits with human bones, 7 deposits of objects without human bones and 5 deposits with animal bones. The 34 deposits with humans contained the bones of 57 individuals, 9 being cremated and 48 inhumed. The vast majority of those inhumed were children, 38 of them being less than 7 years old and 20 less than one year old. All of the cremation graves are from the period between the end of the 4th c. BC and the the third quarter of the 1st c. BC. Most of the cremation graves are for adults and matures, but there are some children. In all the cases where weapons could be found and the sex could be determined, the individuals were males, mostly adults/mature, but also children.

It is without a doubt that, from an archaeological and cultural standpoint, they belong to Padea – Panaghiurski Kolonii. Ethnically speaking, they can be linked to warriors of the local, Dacian inhabitants, given the whole set of finds from that period (fortresses, settlements, graves). Of course, the find will be analysed in the context of all the known finds of this type from the area between the Iron Gates and the South-western Transylvania.

### **First Century AD Tumulus „Movila Hârtop” at Poiana: Retrieving Information**

**Daniel Spânu (Romania)**

The "Movila Hârtop" tumulus from Poiana (Galați County) was investigated by Radu Vulpe in 1936. The first published mentions date back to the post-war period, but the inventory (local jewellery and early Roman imperial imports) has remained unpublished for a long time. Recently, the original diary and a number of objects considered lost have been retrieved. Only now the archaeological research has a complete picture of the spectacular funerary discovery at Poiana.

### **Early Iron Age fortifications and necropolises in the Middle Dniester Region**

**Aurel Zanoci, Ion Niculiță and Mihail Băț (Rep. Moldova)**

The area under investigation includes the southern part of the Middle Dniester Region, between the villages of Climăuții de Jos, in the north, and Țipova, in the south. It is located, for the most part, on the right bank of the Dniester and has an area of approximately 40 × 10-20 km. In terms of physical geography, it is a plateau region (Dniester Plateau), which has a moderate relief, with absolute heights of about 250-347 m above sea level, fragmented by a system of narrow valleys and narrow ravines.

In the Early Iron Age, this territory was populated by the sedentary communities attributed to the Holercani-Hansca cultural group (end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century - 11<sup>th</sup> century BC) and the Cozia-Saharna culture (end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century - the beginning of the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC). For the Holercani-Hansca cultural group in the Middle Dniester region, there are only six open settlements (Rașcov XI, Solonceni “Hlinaia”, Saharna Mică, etc.) and two burials identified in the necropolises of the Cozia-Saharna culture at Climăuții de Jos and Saharna “Țiglău”.

In the following centuries the settlement extended mainly on the right bank of the Dniester, the sites being concentrated either on the high bank of the river or on the banks of its tributaries (Ciorna, Saharna, etc.). At present, seven fortifications, 40 open settlements and nine necropolises attributed to the Cozia-Saharna culture are registered in this region. From a topographic point of view, it was observed that most of the sites of this culture are located within “agglomerations”: 1. fortification – open settlements – necropolis; 2. fortification – open settlements; 3. open settlements – necropolis. The only exceptions are necropolises from Climăuți de Jos and Poiana, in the vicinity of which no fortifications or open settlements have been attested.

The association of *fortification – open settlements – necropolis* is the “classic” example of organizing the territory belonging to a human community. Thus, in the Middle Dniester Region, such a situation was confirmed in four cases. For example, nine open settlements (Saharna Mare / “Dealul Mănăstirii”, Saharna “La Șanț”, Saharna “Rude”, etc.) and a necropolis (Saharna “Țiglău”) are concentrated in the Saharna micro-zone along with the Saharna Mare fortification. A similar situation has been documented in the basin of the Ciorna River, near Mihuleni, where are known: a fortress (Mihuleni IX), four open settlements (Mihuleni II, Mihuleni VII etc.) and a necropolis (Mihuleni I). The “agglomerations” around the villages of Țareuca (a fortification – Țareuca “Cetate”, an open settlement – Stohnaia I, and a necropolis – Țareuca) and Saharna Nouă (the Saharna “Hulboaca” fortress, the Saharna “Gura Hulboacei” open settlement, and the Saharna II / “Gura Hulboacei” necropolis) consist of a smaller number of sites.

Thus, as a result of the study of the Cozia-Saharna culture sites in the Middle Dniester Region, it is possible to assume the existence of several related communities in this area, which occupy a bounded space, having as an “administrative center” a fortification. At the same time, the community also had a common necropolis.

# Notes



